

THE PRINCIPLES

OF

CHRISTIAN RELIGION

In XXX

Questions and Answers.

Whereunto is added

A compendious History of the most
memorable Passages of Holy Scrip-
ture, by way of *Questions and An-
swers*: for the Use and Benefit of
the Inhabitants of the Parish of
Wotton in Oxfordshire.

By *John Hoffman*, Rector thereof.

The Second Edition.

1 Tim. 4. 8.

Godliness is profitable to all things.

J. G. LONDON, 22

Printed by *T.D.* for the Author, and are
to be sold by *Giles Widdowes*, at the *Black
Dragon*, in *St. Paul's Church-yard*.

To
My Loving Neighbours and Pa-
rishioners, the Inhabitants of
the Town and Parish of
Wotton in Oxfordshire.

Beloved in the Lord,

I Grow old, and must ere long leave
you, and because your children should
not presently forget me, I have left
them this Token of my love for
their future Benefit and Comfort.

Let them learn and Understand these
Principles, and the annexed History of
the Bible, and this will enable them to
give an account, in some measure, to every
man that shall ask them, a reason of the
hope that is in them, with meekness and
fear. 1 Pet. 3. 15.

'Tis true, I compos'd and printed the
same for them heretofore, but all those

Copies having been bought up and dispersed and none to be had now, and divers persons having sent to me for some; I had no rest in my spirit, till I resolved on a second Edition, with some enlargements here and there.

Now the Lord Jesus bless you and yours, and so appear on you, and upon my labours amongst you, that in the great Day of Account we may not be ashamed, but stand with Comfort before the Tribunal of Christ, and receive an Euge, well done good and faithful servants, enter into your Master's joy. Which is the daily prayer of

Your most affectionate

Friend and Pastor,

From my Study
at Wotton,
Febr. 6.
1672.

John Hoffman.

A short Catechism.

Or, The

PRINCIPLES

Of our

CHRISTIAN RELIGION

in 30 Questions and Answers.

The 1. Question.

W *Hat is every one by Nature?*

The Answer.

Every one by Nature is a poor miserable Sinner, not able of himself to doe any thing pleasing to God. *Hebr. 11. 6. Rom. 7. 24.*

Quest. 2.

How came we to be so wretched?

Answ.

1. By the guilt of the first sin committed by *Adam* and *Eve* in Paradise.

2. By Original Sin, which is not only a want of God's Image, consisting in Holiness

(2)

and Righteousness, but also a proness and inclination to all Sins.

3. By our daily actual transgressions in thought, word and deed. *Psal. 51. 5. Rom. 5. 12.*

Quest. 3.

What is Sin?

Answ.

Sin is a breach of God's Law, exposing us to God's Curse, and heavy Judgments temporally and eternally. *1 John 3. 4. Gal. 3. 10.*

Quest. 4.

How may we be freed from this miserable Condition?

Answ.

Only by Jesus Christ, the alone Mediator betwixt God and man. *1 Tim. 2. 5.*

Quest. 5.

What is God?

Answ.

God is a Spirit infinite in Power, Justice, Mercy, and Wisdom, and all other Perfections: distinguished into 3 Persons, God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Ghost; and these Three Persons are one God. *John 4. 24. 1 Joh 5. 7.*

Quest. 6.

What is Jesus Christ?

Answ.

((3.))

Ans.
The Son of God, and the Son of Man.
For Christ hath two Natures, the Divine and the Humane Nature, united in one Person: And he undertook 3. Offices for us:

1. To be our Prophet to teach us.
2. To be our High Priest, to dye for us, and to interceed in Heaven for us.
3. To be our Heavenly King to rule us by his Word and Holy Spirit. *Act. 3. 21. Apoc. 1. 5.*

Quest.
What believest thou concerning the Holy Ghost?

Ans.
I believe that the Holy Ghost is God, sent to me, and to all God's Elect, to guide us, to make us holy, and to comfort us in all our Afflictions. *Joh. 14. 26.*

Quest.
How may we get God to be Our God and Father?

Ans.
By Faith in Jesus Christ alone. *Joh. 3. 16. Rom. 3. 28.*

Quest.
What is true Faith?

Ans.
Faith is a precious gift of God, whereby I perswade and assure my self, that God for

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Christ his sake hath justified me, and will
deceit of me, imputing Christ's Righteous-
ness to me, and imputing my Sins to him.

2 Cor. 5. 21.

Quest. 10.

How many Articles are there of the Chri-
stian Faith?

Answ.

Twelve: as they are set down in the A-
postles Creed, I believe in God, &c.

Quest 11.

How may we get and increase our Faith?

Answ.

1. By the hearing of God's Word prea-
ched to us by faithful and lawful Ministers.

Rom. 10. 17.

2. By Prayer, asking of God in the Name
of Jesus Christ things lawful and needful
for Soul and Body, according to the Lord's
Prayer: namely: Our Father which
art, &c.

3. By the holy Sacraments.

Quest. 12.

What is a Sacrament?

Answ.

An outward Sign and Seal of the Cove-
nant of Grace. Rom. 4. 11.

What the Covenant of Grace is, See He-
brews 10. 16, 17.

Quest.

Quest. 13.

How many Sacraments have we Christians?

Answ.

Two only, properly so called, generally necessary: Baptism and the Lord's Supper:

1 Cor. 10. 2, 3.

To these Sacraments all those have right, to whom the Promises are made: upon this ground we baptise the Infants of Christian parents, and when afterwards they come to the years of Discretion, and can examine themselves, we also admit them to the Lords Supper. *Act. 2. 39. 1 Cor. 11. 28.*

Quest. 14.

What is the outward sign, and the inward Grace in Baptism?

Answ.

Water is the outward Sign, *Joh. 1. 26.* And the washing away of our Sins by the Blood of Christ is the inward Grace. *Acts 2. 38.*

Quest. 15.

What do you learn by your Baptism for the strengthening of your faith?

Answ.

Two things: First, that as water washeth away outward filth; So the blood of Christ washeth away our Sins: *1 Pet. 3. 21.*

Secondly, my baptism teacheth me to rise to newness of life, to deny Ungodliness,

liness and worldly lusts, and to live soberly,
righteously and godly in this world. *Rom.*

6. 4. *Tit.* 2. 12.

Quest. 16.
*What is the outward Sign in the Lord's
Supper.*

Answ.
Bread and Wine, which the Lord hath
Commanded to be received and taken by
all. *Matth.* 26: 26, 27.

Quest. 17.
What inward Grace is thereby sealed to us?
Answ.

All the benefits of Christ's death and pas-
sion and his righteousness are as surely sea-
led unto me by it, as if I my self had
wrought them. *Rom.* 4. 25. For as by the
hand and mouth my body receiveth the
Bread and Wine; So by faith my Soul re-
ceiveth and feedeth on the body and bloud
of Christ, *John.* 6. 35.

Quest. 18.
*Is the Bread and Wine in the Sacrament
transubstantiated and turned into the reall
body and bloud of Christ.*

Answ.
Noe: For if you turn or take away the
outward sign, it is no Sacrament.

Quest. 19.
*What is it then to eat the flesh and to drink
the blond of Christ?*
Answ.

Answ.

Feat the flesh and drink the bloud of Christ, when I believe, that Christ dyed also for me: For Christ is really, Spiritually, Sacramentally, representatively present in the Sacrament crucified before our Eyes by the breaking of the bread, and by the powring out of the Wine. *Galat.*

3. 1.

Quest. 20.

Why wouldst thou receive the Lord's Supper?

Answ.

1. Because Christ hath commanded it: saying, Do this in remembrance of me. *Luc. 22. 19.*

2. Because I would hereby shew my my dear love and thankfulness to Christ for my Redemption: and my charity to all the World.

3. Because I find my self weak in Faith: and by receiving this Sacrament I shall grow stronger in grace to serve my God more cheerfully: it being the Sacrament of our Spiritual growth, when worthily received.

Quest. 21.

What should be the manner of one that will receive the Sacrament?

Answ.

Answ.

He that will receive this Sacrament must not be utterly ignorant, nor scandalous in his life, but must carefully examine himself. 1 Cor. 11. 28.

Quest. 22.

Why must one examine himself before-hand?

Answ.

1. Because an Unworthy receiver becometh guilty of the body and blood of Christ: 1 Cor. 11. 27.

2, Because an Unworthy receiver provoketh the Lord to Wrath, and so eats and drinks his own judgement. 1 Cor. 11. 29. And therefore Fooles, and mad people, and Children must not receive it, because they cannot examine themselves.

Quest. 23.

Wherein must a Christian chiefly examine himself?

Answ.

A Christian must trie and examine:

1. His Knowledge of God and of himself.

2. His Faith, whether he have true faith or no.

3. His Repentance, whether he be truly sorry for his sins and abhorr them. For Re-

Repentance is a change from worse to better, upon true sorrow for sin.

4. his Love and Charity, desiring and seeking reconciliation with those, whom he hath offended or is fallen out with.

5. His Obedience and Thankfulness.

Quest. 24.

What else is required in our antecedent preparation to the holy Communion?

Ans.

'Tis needful to prepare our selves further.

1. By private prayer and self-humiliation.

2. By reading and meditation.

Read

The Psal. 25.

Joh. 15.

Rom. 8.

1 Cor. 13.

And the history of Christ's Passion in Luke 22 and 23 Chapters.

Quest. 25.

How must one behave himself at the Communion,

Ans.

At the Communion, We must shew

1. All holy Reverence and Attention.

2. Meditate on Christ's bitter Death and Passion,

Passion, sorrowing and grieving for our sins the procuring cause of it.

3. Trust and depend on Christ's meritorious Satisfaction made to God's Justice on the Cross,

4. Rejoice and take comfort in his wonderful love towards us.

5. We must renew our Vowes, and resolve in the strength of God's grace to live hereafter more to his glory, than ever we have done: Receiving the Lord Jesus into our hearts, as we receive the bread and the Wine into our bodies.

Quest. 26.

What is expected of us, after We have received?

Ans.

1. I must trie what inward comfort I have received.

2. I must pay my vowes, and be thankful to God for affording me a place in his holy Church here on earth, which is a Token and a pledge of a place prepared for me in the Church triumphant in heaven, where I shall eat bread, and drink the new wine in my heavenly Father's Kingdom.

Quest. 27.

What meanest thou by the holy Church or the Catholick Church?

Ans.

Answer

I mean the company of all God's Elect that have been, are, or shall be called out of the world to be Saints. *Acts. 2. 47. Rom. 1. 7. 8. 1. 12.*

Quest. 28.

What are the constant Exercises of every true member of the Church militant on earth?

Answer.

1. To keep a good Conscience, *1. Pet. 2. 10. 24. 16.*
2. To be much in prayer and fasting, *Luc. 21. 36.*
3. To read and hear God's word. *Joh. 5. 39.*
4. To repent daily of his daily failings, *Psal. 6. 6.*
5. To keep the Lord's day, *Act. 20. 7.*
6. To do good to all, specially to godly Christians; *Gal. 6. 10.*
7. To doe as he would be done by, according to the morall law, the X^e Commandments, which are the Rule of mans life: *Matth. 7. 12.* And in the discharge of all these duties to believe, that God will accept of his person and duties for Christ's sake alone, without whom our best performances are sinful, *Rom. 14. 23. Hebr. 11. 6.*

Quest.

Quest. 29.

Into how many Tables are the 10 Commandments divided?

Ans. 1

Into two Tables; *Exod. 31. 18.* The first teacheth us our duty towards God in the four first Commandments: The Second Table sheweth us the duties, we owe to our Neighbours, in the six latter Commandments. *Math. 22. 37, 39.*

Quest. 30.

Why must a Christian live and walk according to the Rule of the Moral law, and do good works, seeing good works do not save us?

Ans.

Christians must be careful to maintain good works, though they merit not heaven by them.

1. Because God strictly commands it. *Math. 5. 16. Tit. 3. 8.*

2. Because by good works we shew our Love and Obedience to God our Father in walking as becoms his children. *Joh. 14. 15.*

3. Because hereby we make our Calling and Election sure to ourselves, *2 Pet. 1. 10.*

4. Because by a godly life and conversation we may win others to Christ, *1 Pet.*

3. 1.

5. Because God will certainly reward them,

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them, not because we deserve it, but
because God hath freely promised to re-
ward every good work. *Matth. 10. 42.*

Eccles. 12. 1.

Remember now thy Creator in
the days of thy youth.

Glory be to the Lord.

Amen.

B **The**

THE
HISTORY of the BIBLE
IN
Questions and Answers.

Genesis.

The first Question.

What is contained in the First Book
of Holy Scripture ?

The Answer.

In Genesis is contained the History of
the Patriarks ;

Of *Adam* before the Floud.

Of *Noah* in the Floud.

Of *Abraham* and the rest , after the
Floud.

Quest. 2.

What was done before the Floud ?

Ans.

1. God created Heaven and Earth :
Adam

Adam and *Eve*, and all things in six days, and rested the Seventh Day.

2. God prepared Paradise for our first Parents, and put them therein, and for Sin turned them out again.

3. *Adam* in the state of Innocency gave fit Names to all creatures.

4. *Cain* kill'd his brother *Abel*.

5. *Henoch* walked with God, and was taken up into Heaven.

6. The rest of the Patriarchs, that lived before the Flood invented divers Arts:
chap. 5.

Quest. 3.

What was done in the days of Noah?

Answ.

1. The whole World was drowned by a flood.

2. The cause was man's sin, and want of Repentance upon warning given by *Noah*.

3. *Noah* and his family, with some beasts of all kinds were preserved in the Ark.

4. The Rainbow was given for a Token that God would never destroy the World by Water any more.

5. The building of the Tower of *Babel* is undertaken by some and punished.

Quest. 4.

What canst thou say of Abraham?

B. 2.

Answ.

Answ.

1. Abraham was called by God out of his own Country to sojourn in the land of *Canaan*, which God afterwards gave to him, and to his posterity for an Inheritance.

2. He entertained Angels unawares, and prayd for *Sodom* and *Gomorrhah*, and hath a Son by *Sarah*.

3. He met with many afflictions in his travells to and fro with his wife *Sarah*, his Maid *Hagar*, and his kinsman *Lot*.

4. He fought a great battel against the the Heathen Kings, with the assistance of his own servants, where he obtained the Victory, and recovered his Kinsman *Lot* that had been taken Captive, and at his return *Melchisedeck* blessed him, to whom *Abraham* paid Tithes of the spoiles taken in that War.

5. *Abraham* built many Altars to God, and was careful to teach his family the knowledge of God, and was willing to sacrifice his Son *Isaac*.

6. He had many troubles about *Ismael*, *Hagar's* Son.

7. He purchased a piece of land to be a burying place for his family, and there *Sarah* was buried first.

8. He took great care to have his Son

Isaac

Isaak married to one of his own kindred, and not to a Canaanitish woman.

9. After the death of Sarah, he married again and had divers Children.

10. He died and was honourably buried.

Quest. 5.

What say you of Isaak?

Ans.

1. *Isaak* feared God, as his Father Abraham had done : and after that he had lived 20 years with *Rebecca* his wife without a Child, he prayed to God for her, whereupon she conceived and bare him two Sons, *Esa* and *Jacob*.

2. He was a great man among the Philistins, very rich in Cattel and goods, he had much contention with them about digging of Wells.

3. In his old age he blessed *Jacob* and *Esa*, he died and was buried by his Sons.

Quest. 6.

What is said of Jacob?

Ans.

1. He fled into a strange land for fear of his brother *Esa*.

2. In his travells, lodging once all night in the field, he saw in his dream a ladder reaching from Earth to Heaven, the Angels of God descending and ascending on it : where he vowed a Vow.

3. He is entertained by his Uncle *Laban* to have the care and oversight of his Cattel, where he Married *Laban's* two daughters *Leah* and *Rachel*. With their hand-maids *Bilha* and *Zilpah*.

5. He had 12. Sons and one daughter, and grew rich, God blessing his Cattel.

6. He returned to his Father into the Land of *Canaan*, and by the way met with many troubles. For

1. *Laban* pursued after him, and charged him with theft.

2. His brother *Esaú* came with an Army against him.

3. His Wife *Rachel* dyed in Child-bed.

4. His Daughter *Dinab* is ravished.

5. His Sons *Simeon* and *Levi* commit Murther and endanger his whole Family.

6. *Reuben* his eldest Son committed incest. And his Son *Judas* lies with his daughter in law.

7. After he came home and was settled, his troubles about his Son *Joseph*, began.

8. In his old age, he removed with all his family into Egypt, and died there, and his Body was brought back into the land of *Canaan* and honourably buried.

Quest.

*Quest. 7.**What canst thou say of Joseph?**Answ.*

1. *Joseph* is a worthy pattern of Piety, he feared God, and took great care for his old Father, and for all his Family.

2. He was sold into *Egypt* by his own brethren, and was there wrongfully imprisoned, and by God's wonderful Providence he was advanced to great honour, and became a father and a preserver of the land in time of famine.

3. He was married in *Egypt*, and had two sons, he died, and is embalmed.

Exodus.*Quest. 1.**Why is this Book called Exodus?**Answ.*

Because it containeth the History of *Israel's* going out of the Land of *Egypt*, by the Mighty hand of God.

*Quest. 2.**What became of Jacob's Posterity after the Death of Joseph?**Answ.*

1. They were miserably oppressed by the *Egyptians*.

2. By *Pharaoh's* Command all the Male children were to be drowned as soon as they were born : the Midwives shewed much Pity towards them.

3. *Moses* an infant is miraculously preserved, and bred up by King *Pharaoh's* own Daughter.

4. *Moses* and *Aaron* are called and sent to the King, to let Israel depart quietly out of the Land.

5. *Pharaoh* hardened his heart, and refused to let them goe ; for which he is punished with 9 Plagues, which are these ;

1. All the Waters of *Egypt* were turned into blood : God gave them blood to drink for their Cruelty towards the Israelitish Infants.

2. God punished the Land by frogs.

3. By Lice.

4. By noisom flies.

5. By Murrain on beasts, and boils on men.

6. By terrible hail, thunder and lightning.

7. By Locusts.

8. By dreadful darkness.

9. By killing the Firstborn.

Quest. 3.

What became of Israel ?

Ans.

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Answ.

1. None of these Plagues touched them.
2. They goe out of *Egypt* in haste, at the King's request.
3. The Passover is instituted.
4. They come to the Red Sea.

Quest. 4.

What did God do for them there and afterwards?

Answ.

1. He divided the Sea for them, and they went on foot through it, and the *Egyptians* following, the waters returned and drowned them.

2. God led them by *Moses* and *Aaron* into the Wilderness, and gave them the Law on Mount *Sinai*: and there they having grievously sinned by Idolatry, at *Moses's* Prayer are pardoned.

3. God commanded them to set up the Tabernacle, and gave them laws about Sacrifices.

Quest. 5.

How were they maintained in the Wilderness?

Answ.

1. God gave them Manna from Heaven, and water out of a Rock.

2. Their shoes and garments did not wear out for 40 years.

Quest.

Quest. 6.

How did Moses govern such a multitude in the Wilderness ?

Ans. w.

1. He appointed Magistrates and Officers under him, by the Counsel of his Father in law.

2. God usually appeared to *Moses* to direct him.

3. He had the Oracle of *Urim* and *Thummim* to ask Counsel of God by.

4. The Lord went along with his People, and lead them by a cloud by day, and by a Pillar of Fire by Night.

Leviticus.

Quest.

Why is this Book called Leviticus ?

Ans. w.

Because it contains the Laws and Duties of the Levites or Ministers of God, under the Law, before Christ's Incarnation.

Read often the 26 Chapter of this Book.

Numbers.

Quest. I.

Why is this Book called Numbers ?

Ans. w.

Answ.

1. Because all the Males from 20 years upward amongst the Israelites were numbred in the Wilderness, by *Moses*, at God's Command.

2. Because *Israel's* murmurings and punishments in the wilderness are here set down in Order.

3. Because their several stations and removals are here also numbred.

Quest. 2.

Which were the great Rebellions of Israel in the wilderness?

Answ.

1. That of *Miriam*, for which she is punished with Leprosy.

2. That of all the people, upon the return of the Spies out of the land of *Canaan*.

3. That of *Corah, Dathan and Abiram*, whom the Earth swallowed up and all their Company.

Quest. 3.

What became of Aaron the first High-Priest?

Answ.

He died and was buried in the Wilderness, and his son *Eleazar* succeeded him.

Quest.

What Wars had they in the Wilderness?

Answ.

Answ.

They had wars with the *Amalakites*, and with the *Midianites*; where we have the history of *Balaam*, and of the zeal of *Phineas*, and of the great Plague amongst the *Israelites* for committing whoredom with *Moab*.

Quest. 5.

What other memorable things have you in this book?

Answ.

1. The 72 Elders prophecyed.
2. The brazen Serpent is set up.
3. The Levites are numbred, and divers cases in law determin'd, as that of *Zelophehad's* daughters.
4. *Moses* is forwarn'd of his Death, and his Successor is named, to wit, *Joshuah*.
5. The two Tribes and an half obtain the land on this side *Jordan* for an Inheritance, but with this condition to assist the other Tribes, till they also could be settled in their Inheritances.

Deuteronomy

Quest.

What canst thou say of this Book?

Anf.

Ans.

1. This Book is called *Deuteronomy*, that is to say, a second Law, because it contains a repetition, 1. of Laws formerly given, and 2. of Mercies formerly received.

2. This Book is full of sweet admonitions and exhortations to sincerity and constancy in God's Worship and Service.

3. This book contains *Moses's* Swan-like song, his Prophecy and blessing of the people, his death and burial, and *Joshuah's* Succession.

Joshuah.

The Question.

What readeſt thou in this Book?

Ans.

1. The History of the Wars of *Canaan*.

2. Of *Israels* going over *Jordan* on dry land.

3. The Circumcision in *Gilgal*: The *Manna* ceased.

4. Christ appeared to *Joshuah* as an armed Man.

5. The miraculous taking of *Jericbo*, and the saving of *Rahab*.

6. The troubles about the City *Ai*, and *Achan* the cause thereof.

7. The

7. The History of the *Gibeonites*.

8. At *Josuah's* Prayer the Sun stood still a whole day, God throwing down Hail-stones out of Heaven to destroy the Kings of the *Amorites*.

9. The land of *Canaan* is divided by *Josuah* among the *Israelites*.

10. The two Tribes and half return to their Inheritance, and the mistake about an Altar.

11. *Josuah's* charge to *Israel*, to serve God according to his Word, and to take heed of Idolatry.

12. *Josuah's* death and burial, and *Eleazar's*.

Judges.

Quest. 1.

Why is this Book so called?

Ans.

Because it containeth the Valiant Acts of the Judges of *Israel* whom God raised up after the death of *Josuah* to fight the Lords Battles against the Enemies of the Church.

Quest. 2.

What are the names of those Judges?

Ans.

Answ.

- | | |
|--------------------------|-------------|
| 1 Othniel. | 8 Jair. |
| 2 Ehud. | 9 Jephtha. |
| 3 Shamgar. | 10 Ibsan. |
| 4 Deborah and
Barach. | 11 Elon. |
| 5 Gideon. | 12 Abdon. |
| 6 Abimelech. | 13 Sampson. |
| 7 Tola. | 14 Eli. |
| | 15 Samuel. |

Quest. 3.

Which are the chief Histories of this Book?

Ans.

1. The History of *Adonibeseck*.
2. *Israel's* continual apostacy to Idolatry.
3. The memorable battle fought by *Deborah* and *Barack* against *Sisera*, who was slain by *Jael* in her Tent.
4. The miraculous deliverance given to *Israel* by *Gideon*.
5. The Wickedness of *Abimelech* a Bastard.
6. The History of *Jephtha*, and his Vow.
7. Of *Sampson's* Valor, Sin and Death.
8. The sad History of the *Benjaminites* about the *Levites* business.

Ruth.

Ruth.

What is the sum and substance of this book?
 Answ.

1. How *Elimelech* and his wife *Naomi* with their two Sons *Mahlon* and *Chilion*, in a time of Famine left their own Country *Canaan*, and sojourned in the land of *Moab*.

2. Their two sons Married two *Moabitish* women, *Opha* and *Ruth*.

3. *Elimelech* and his two Sons died in that Country.

4. *Naomi* returns to her own Countrey with *Ruth* her daughter in law.

5. They come to *Bethlehem*, and *Naomi* so ordereth all things, that *Ruth* is married to *Boaz*, according to *Moses* law.

6. *Boaz* hath a Son by *Ruth* named *Obed*, who was Grandfather to King *David*.

The first Book of Samuel.

Quest. 1.

Why is this, and the next Book called the Book of Samuel?

Answ.

Answ.

Not because *Samuel* wrote them, but because it containeth the History of *Samuel's* Life and Death, who being an Eminent Prophet, and the last Judge of *Israel* did great Service for God's Church in those days: He by Gods appointment elected and annointed the 2. first Kings of *Israel*. These 2 books were written by some holy man, who lived in those times.

Quest. 2.

What dost thou read of *Samuel*?

Answ.

1. I read of his Birth and Education, and of the Care his Mother *Hannah* took for him.

2. Of his coming to the High-Priest *Eli*, to serve under him.

3. Of a sad Message *Samuel* brings to *Eli* from God, for winking at his Sons Wickedness.

4. Of *Samuel's* Wisdom and Care to judge *Israel* after the death of *Eli*.

5. Of his power with God in prayer.

6. Of his Uncorrupt Life, Death and Burial.

Quest. 3.

What canst thou say of *Eli* the High-Priest?

C

Answ.

Answ.

1. How dreadfully God punished him and his Sons.

2. How in his dayes the Ark of God was taken by the *Philistins*.

3. The *Philistins*, and others are terribly plagued for their curiosity in their profane drawing near to the Ark.

4. God causes the very Enemies of his Church to restore the Ark with an offering.

Quest. 4.

What canst thou say of Saul?

Answ.

1. He was the first King over all *Israel*.

2. He fought against the *Ammonites* and *Amalekites* and had good success, but because he failed in Executing God's command he was rejected.

3. *Israel* in *Saul's* dayes was much oppressed by the *Philistins*, against whom God gave *Jonathan* a great Victory.

4. He takes *Davids* into his Court, and gives him his Daughter *Michal* to wife, pretends much love to him for killing *Goliath* the Giant: yet afterwards persecutes him continually.

5. *Saul* being forsaken of God seeks for a *Witch*, and soon after he and his Sons

are slain in Battel by the *Philistines* upon *Mount Gilboa*.

The Second Book of *Samuel*.

Quest.

What is chiefly set down in this book?

Answer.

1. That *David* was the Second King over all *Israel*.

2. His valiant Acts, and Household troubles.

3. He suffered much, which made him compose many sweet *Psalms*.

4. He lived among the *Philistines* in *Zig-lack* till the Death of *Saul*.

5. He is not pleased with the Messengers of *Saul's* Death, and the Murder of *Ishboseth*;

6. He is made King first in *Hebron* over *Judah*, and afterwards over all *Israel*, and carried himself wisely in the business of *Abner* and *Joab*.

Quest. 2.

What else canst thou say of David?

Ans.

1. How he took *Jerusalem* from the *Jebusites*, and brought the *Ark* of God thither, intending to build a Temple.

2. He sinned grievously against *Uriah*, for which he suffered much afterwards of

his own Children; *Amnon Thamar, Absalom.*

3. He had many troubles beside with *Sheba, Shimei* and *Joab.*

4. His kindness to *Mephibosheth, Hanun* King of *Moab*, and to the *Gibeonites* in a time of a fore Famine.

5. He was Victorious in his Wars, all his Enemies were subdued.

6. He numbered the people, and all Israel is plagued for it.

The First and Second Book of Kings.

Quest. 1.

How many Kings reigned all over Israel?

Answ.

Onely three: *Saul, David, Salomon.*

Quest. 2.

What is said, in this first Book, of David?

Answ.

1. He appoints *Salomon* his Son to be made King, and not *Adoniab.*

2. He groweth weak in his old age, giveth his Son *Salomon* directions, dieth and is royally buried.

Quest. 3.

What is mentioned of *Salomon*?

Answ

Answ.

1. His behaviour towards *Adoniah*, *Jehoiab*, *Abiathar* and *Shimei*.

2. His Marriage with the Princess of Egypt.

3. His prayer for Wisdom.

Quest. 4.

Wherein did Salomon's Wisdom eminently appear?

Answ.

1. In the judgement he gave 'twixt the dead and the living Child.

2. In his Songs and Proverbs, and natural Philosophy, knowing the nature of most Creatures.

3. In the Government of his Court and Kingdom.

4. By the building of the Temple, and his own houses.

5. By his prayer at the dedication of the Temple.

6. By his entertainment of the Queen of Sheba.

Quest. 5.

What evil is recorded of Salomon?

Answ.

1. He had 700 Wives and 300 Concubines.

2. He fell to Idolatry by the inticement of outlandish women.

3. I read of Gods anger against him.

testified by raising up Adversaries against him ; namely,

Jeroboam his own Servant.

Hadad King of *Edom*.

Rezon King of *Syria*.

Quest. 6.

What was done immediately after Salomon's death?

Answ.

After that *Salomon* died and was honourably buried, the Kingdom was divided. Ten Tribes adhered to *Jeroboam* and two only to *Solomon's* Son.

Quest. 7.

How many King's Reigned only over the two Tribes that were Kings of Judah?

Answ.

The Kings of *Judah* were 20 whose names are these ;

1 *Rehoboam*.

2 *Abiam*.

3 *Asa*,

4 *Jehosaphat*.

5 *Jehoram*.

6 *Ahaziah*.

7 *Queen Athaliah*.

8 *Joash*.

9 *Amaziah*.

10 *Azaria or Uz-*

ziah.

11 *Jotham*.

12 *Ahaz*.

13 *Hezekiah*.

14 *Manassah*.

15 *Amon*.

16 *Josiah*.

17 *Jehoaaz*.

18 *Jehoachim*.

19 *Jehojakin*.

20 *Zedakia*.

Quest.

Quest. 8.

How many Kings reigned over the ten tribes of Israel?

Ans.

The Kings of *Israel* were XIX, and none of them good : their Names are these :

- | | |
|-------------|--------------|
| 1 Jeroboam. | 11 Jehoahaz. |
| 2 Nadab. | 12 Jehoash. |
| 3 Baasha. | 13 Jeroboam. |
| 4 Ela. | 14 Zecharia. |
| 5 Zimri. | 15 Shallum. |
| 6 Omri. | 16 Menahem. |
| 7 Ahab. | 17 Pekaiiah. |
| 8 Ahaziah. | 18 Pekah. |
| 9 Jehoram. | 19 Hoshea. |
| 10 Jehu. | |

Quest. 9.

What is said of the first King of Judah Rehoboam?

Ans.

1. He neglected the good Counsel of old men, and so lost the greatest part of his Kingdom.

2. For his sins, and for the sins of the Land, the King of *Egypt* came with an army and robbed the Temple which *Salomon* had built and beautified.

3. He died and was little lamented.

Quest. 10.

What is said of Abiam the second King of Judah?

Ans.

Ans.

He was very wicked, reigned but three years, and died.

Quest. 11.

What canst thou say of Asa?

Answ.

1. He was a good King and reformed Religion.

2. He prospered in his Wars against *Bashan*, and against the *Ethiopians*.

3. He and his Subjects entred into a strict Covenant to serve God according to his Word.

4. Two sins are laid to his charge,

1. His unkindness to the Prophet *Hanani*.

2. His looking more after Physicians than God.

5. He fell sick of a disease in his feet, and dyed.

Quest. 12.

What is said of Jehosaphat?

Answ.

1. He, like his Father *Asa*, maintained true Religion.

2. He is blamed for keeping friendship with the house of *Ahab*.

3. He caused the Priests to goe from Town to Town to teach the People to observe Moses Law.

4. In a time of War he sought God and ob-

obtained a miraculous Victory. He reign'd gloriously and died peaceably.

Quest. 13.

What is said of Jéhoram?

Answ.

1. He was Wicked and Idolatrous, for which he was reprov'd by a Letter from the Prophet *Elijah*, but he despis'd it.

2. For his Sins God smote him with an incurable disease and pain in his bowels whereof he died.

3. His death was not lamented, neither was he buried among the Kings of *Judah*.

Quest. 14.

What is said of Ahazia?

Answ.

He was very Wicked, he reigned but one year, and going to see the King of *Israel* was slain there by *Jehu*.

Quest. 15.

What readest thou of Queen Athaliah?

Answ.

1. She being Queen-mother undertook to reign, and destroyed all the royal-seed, except, the yongest Prince *Jesab* who was secretly carried away and preserved by his Aunt *Jehoshebah*, the wife of *Jehojadah* the High Priest.

2. This Queen was afterwards slain by the command of the High-Priest, and *Jesab*

As the yong Prince was made King.

Quest. 16.

What is said of Joash?

Answ.

1. *Joash* is made King by *Jehojadah* the High-priest, and did well so long as this Priest lived, and took great care to repair the Temple.

2. After the death of *Jehojadah* he grew very wicked, and being reprov'd by *Jehojadah's* son, he caused him to be killed, a sad requital for the service *Jehojadah* had done him.

3 *Jehojadah* dying is buried among the Kings: *Joash* by a conspiracy is slain by his Courtiers,

Quest. 17.

What canst thou say of Amazlah?

Answ.

1. He was a religious Prince, and revenged his Father's murder.

2. He challenging *Jehoash* to fight with him, is worsted by him.

3. He hired Soldiers out of Israel for an 100 Talents of Silver: but being advis'd by a Prophet to let those Souliers, being Idolaters, return to their own homes, he obeyed, and is content to lose the mony: God is able, said the Prophet, to give thee much more.

He

4. He fights with the *Edomites*, and having conquered them, worships their Idol-gods, for which being reprov'd by a Prophet, he is obstinate, and at last killed by a Conspiracy.

Quest. 18.

What read we of Azariah or Uzziah ?

Answ.

1. He was a good king and reigned 52 years.

2. He overcame the *Philistines* in battel.

3. He was a lover of husbandry and cattel.

4. At last, meddling with the Priests office, is smitten with Leprosy and dyed.

Quest. 19.

What say you of Jotham ?

Answ.

He was a good King, he executed his Father's Kingly Office, after his father was leprous ; he was a great builder, prospered in his war against the *Ammonites*, and died.

Quest. 20.

What readest thou of Ahaz ?

Answ.

1. He was very wicked : The Scripture sets this Mark of Infamy upon him ; *This is that Ahaz*. He offered his Son to the idol *Molech* in the fire.

2. He lost part of his Country, and hired the

the King of *Assyria* to help him against the *Syrians*, but all in vain.

3. He set up an idolatrous altar, after the form and fashion of that he saw at *Damascus*, he made a great change in Religion for the worse, and dyed.

Quest. 21.

What do we read of Hezekiah ?

Answ.

1. He was one of the best Kings of *Judah*, and reformed Religion, and brake the brazen serpent, set up by *Moses* in the wilderness.

2. He kept a solemn Passover, and persuaded all his subjects to bind themselves by Vow to serve the Lord.

3. God delivered him and *Jerusalem* miraculously from the Army of *Senacherib*, an Angel of Heaven fighting for them.

4. He fell sick, and upon his prayer God added 15 years to his life.

5. He was a great Builder and became exceeding famous.

6. He offended God for shewing his Treasures to the Ambassadors of the King of *Assyria*, and died.

Quest. 22.

What is said of Manassch ?

Answ.

1. He was one of the most idolatrous Kings

Kings of *Judah*; for he dealt with devils and Wizzards, and spilt much innocent blood.

2. He is led away captive to *Babylon*, and upon his Repentance he was restored to his Kingdom and dyed.

Quest. 23.

What is said of Amon.

Answ.

He was very wicked, and was slain by his own servants.

Quest. 24.

What do we read of Josiah?

Answ.

1. He was one of the best Kings of *Judah*, most zealous to reform Religion.

2. The Prophetess *Huldah* foretels Gods Judgments upon the land, and a blessing upon him for humbling himself at the reading of the Law.

3. He kept a most Solemn Passover, and destroyed the Idolatry of *Judah* and *Israel*.

4. He goeth unadvisedly to war against *Pharaoh-Necho*, and is there slain, whose death was lamented by all, but more especially by the prophet *Jeremy*.

Quest. 25.

What is said of Jehoahaz?

Answ.

He was taken captive by *Pharao*, and died in *Egypt*.

Quest.

Quest. 26.

What read we of Jehojakim?

Answ.

1. He was very wicked, became tributary to *Egypt*, and oppressed his Subjects.

2. The *Caldeans*, and other Nations invaded *Judah*, and Distressed him every way, and he died.

Quest. 27.

What is written of Jehojakim?

Answ.

Nebucadnezar King of *Babylon* took him and his wife and Children, and many of the Nobles of *Judah* captives into *Babylon*, there he lived and died a Prisoner, yet in his latter days he had some enlargement granted in *Babylon*.

Quest. 28.

What is recorded of Mattaniah, alias Zedekiah.

Answ.

He was wicked and rebelled against the King of *Babylon*, whereupon the *Caldeans*, came and besieged the City *Jerusalem* and took it, and burnt it and the Temple of *Salomon*, and carryed away the King and all *Judah* Captive into *Babylon*, which Captivity lasted 70 years, according to the Prophet *Jeremies* prophecy.

Thus far goeth the History of the Kings of *Judah*. Here

Here followeth the History of the Kings of *Israel* after the death of *Salomon*.

Quest. 1.

What is said of *Jeroboam* the first King of *Israel* ?

Answ.

1. *Jeroboam*, for *Salomon's* Sins is made King of the 10 Tribes.

2. He set up Idols in his Dominions, for fear his subjects should go up to *Jerusalem* to Worship, and so fall off from him again : for which sinful policy this mark of infamy is ever after set on his name : *Jeroboam* the Son of *Nebat* who made *Israel* to sin.

3. When one of God's Prophets came to reprove him, and to reclaim him from his Sin, he stretched out his hand against that Prophet, Whereupon his hand withered, and at the Prophet's Prayer is again restored.

4. The same Prophet, seduced by a lying Prophet is slain by a Lyon.

5. *Jeroboam's* Son died young, because some good was found in him.

6. He had continual War with *Judah*, and died.

Quest.

Quest. 2.

What is said of Nadab his Son?

Answ.

He being like his Father Idolatrous and Wicked, was slain by *Baasha* one of his own Subjects in the second year of his Reigr.

Quest. 3.

What is recorded of Baasha?

Answ.

1. He executed God's Wrath upon *Jeroboam's* posterity being a great Warriour.
2. He is told by the Prophet *Iehu*, that for his Wickedness, God would, deal with him as he had dealt with *Jeroboam*.

Quest. 4.

What is said of Elah, Zimri and Omri the three following Kings?

Answ.

1. *Elah* being drunk at a feast is slain by *Zimri* his Servant.
2. *Zimri* having destroyed all *Baasha's* posterity is pursued by *Omri*, he flees to his Pallace and burns himself and Pallace.
3. *Omri* is made King by the Souldiers, and prevaileth against *Tibni* his Competi-tour, he built the City *Samarina* and died.

Quest. 5.

What read we of Ahab, Omri's Son?

Answ.

of blind babble. Answ: Thus

1. *Ahab* was worse than any of the Kings of *Israel* before him, for he brought with his Wife *Jezabel* the Idol of *Baal* into the Land.

2. In his dayes *Jericho* was built. Also in his days there was no Rain in the land for 3 years and six Months, which caused a great Famine.

3. His Wife *Jezabel*, in his name, caused Innocent *Naboth* to be stoned, to get the possession of his Vineyard.

4. Upon the Prophet *Elias*'s Message from God he humbled himself, whereupon the Judgement threatned is put off for a time.

5. He was Victorious in two great battels, he fought with *Benhadad* King of *Syria*.

6. He went to *Ramoth-Gilead* to Battel, contrary to the Prophet *Michaia*'s counsel, and is slain in the field, *Jehosaphat* King of *Judah* being with him.

7. In his dayes the Prophet *Elias* was famous.

Quest. 6.

What is said of *Elias*?

Answ:

1. He foretells a Famine, and is fed by Ravens.

2. He increased the Widdows Oil and

and Meal, and raised a dead Child to life.

3. *Obadiah* a religious Courtier brings him to *Ahab*, *Elia* calls *Baal's* Priests to a sacrifice, and puts them to Death.

4. At *Elia's* Prayer God sent Rain.

5. For fear of *Jezabel* he fled into the Wilderness, where he is fed by an Angel, God appears to him and Commands him to anoint *Elisha* to be a Prophet in his room, and *Jehu* to be King over all *Israel*, and *Hazael* over *Syria*.

6. *Elia* being sent for by King *Ahaziah* *Ahab's* Son, caused fire to come down from Heaven to consume the first and second Captains and their fifties, he spareth the third Captain and goeth with him to the King.

7. He was taken up into Heaven in a fiery Chariot, *Elisha* being by and beholding it.

Quest. 7.

What read we of *Ahaziah* *Ahab's* Son?

Answ.

1. He was Wicked and Idolatrous: *Jehosaphat* refused his friendship.

2. He died of a fall through a Lattice, according to the word of *Elia*.

Quest. 8.

What is said of *Jehoram*?

Answ.

Answ.

1. He was *Ahaziah's* younger brother: *Jehosaphat's* sake he obtained a great pry against the *Moabites*.

He is slain by one of his Captains, acely *Jehu*.

3. In his dayes *Elisha* was famous.

Quest. 9.

What is recorded of *Elisha* the Prophet?

Answ.

1. He being with *Elisha* going up to heaven got his mantle, and therewith divided the waters of *Jordan*, as *Elisha* had done before.

2. He healed the unwholsom waters of *Jericho*.

3. He called for 2 Bears to destroy 42 Children for calling of him baldhead.

4. He multiplied the Widdowes Oil, and raised the *Shunammite's* dead Child to life: and healed the Pottage: Caused the Iron to Swim. He fed a 100 men with a few loaves. He cured *Naaman's* leprosy, and punished *Gehazi* his Servant for lying and for taking a reward. He told the Secrets of the King of *Syria* to the King of *Israel*. He smote an Army of *Syrians* with blindness, that came to apprehend him: He sought a great plenty on a suddain in a time of a grievous Famine in *Samaria*.

5. He entertained *Hazael* with tears and told him of his future greatness and cruelty.

6. Upon his deathbed he promised King, who came to see him, three years against the *Syrians*.

7. He died and is buried: and a dead souldier by touching his bones is raised to life.

Quest. 10.

What is said of Jehu?

Answ.

1. Of a Captain he is made King of *Israel*, and destroyed all *Ahab's* posterity. He killed both the Kings of *Israel* and *Jehoram*, he caused *Jezabel* to be thrown out of a Window, and killed all the worshippers of *Baal*.

2. For his zeal against *Baal* and *Idolatry*, God promised him, that four of his posterity should be Kings successively.

3. He was a great Warrior, Idolater, and dyed.

Quest. 11.

What read we of his Son Jehoahaz?

Answ.

1. He walked in the wayes of *Jeroboam* the Son of *Nebat*.

2. The *Syrians* invading his Dominion he seeks to God, and prospered against them.

Quest. 12.

What is said of Jehoash?

Answ.

1. He lived in his father's sin.
2. He fought with *Amaziah* King of *Judah*, and got the Victory, he was a great Warrior and died.

Quest. 13.

What readest thou of Jeroboam and Zecharia?

Ans.

1. *Jeroboam* was a great Warrior, had good success, and dyed.
2. *Zecharia* succeeded him, and reigned but half a year, and was slain by *Shallum* one of his own subjects.

Quest. 14.

What do we read of the other 5. being the last Kings of Israel?

Answ.

1. *Shallum* reigned one month, and is slain by *Menahem*.
2. *Menahem* reigned 10 years and oppressed his subjects by Taxes.
3. *Pekaiab* his son reigned 2 years, and is slain by *Pekab* a captain of his Army.
4. *Pekab* is killed by *Hoshea*, at which time Israel was carried away captive into *Babylon*.

Thus ended the Kingdom of Israel.

Demas Key
 103. 104.

The I. and II. Book of **Chronicles.***Quest.**Why are these Books so called?**Answ.*

1. Because in them are recorded many memorable histories from *Adam* to those times.

2. Because therein are contained also some histories of the *Kings of Israel* and *Judah*.

*Quest.**What is the sum of this Book?**Answ.*

1. How the *Jews* after 70 years captivity in *Babylon* returned by Command of the Emperor *Cyrus*, and set up again the Temple and Worship of God in *Jerusalem*, and built the City.

2. How *Ezra* the High priest taught the people the Law of *Moses*, and caused that had married outlandish women to leave their wives and children away from them because Christ the Messiah being to come of the Tribe of *Judah*, God would have a holy Seed preserved.

3. How

3. How old people seeing the new City and Temple, and remembering the glory of the old, wept: But they are told by the Prophet for their Comfort, that this latter Temple shall be far more glorious than the former, because the *Messiah* should teach there in person. *Hag. 2. 9.*

Nehemiah.

Quest.

What is chiefly contained in this Book?

Answ.

1. *Nehemiah*, a captive Jew and a great favorite of the Emperour *Artaxerxes*, hath leave and means granted him to return to his own Country, and to set forward the building of the City and Temple in *Jerusalem*.

2. Being returned, he is much opposed in the work by *Tobia* and *Sanballat*, yet protected of God: The people are fain to work with one hand, and to hold a sword in the other.

3. He was zealous and faithful in the Execution of his place and calling.

Hester.**Quest. 1.***What is the sum of this Book?***Answ.**

1. How *Hester*, a poor captive Maid, was preferred to be Queen to the Emperour *Abasuerus*, after that the former Queen *Vasthi* was deposed for refusing to come to the King, when he sent for her, to shew her beauty to his Nobles, being then assembled at a great feast, that lasted 180 daies, where none was compelled to drink, but every man left to his freedom.

2. How *Haman*, a noble man and a great favorite at that Court, obtained a Decree from the Emperour to kill and destroy all the Jews in one day, because *Mordocai* the Jew would not bow the knee before him.

3. How God's Providence wrought for their deliverance and preservation by the care and prayer and fasting of *Mordocai* and *Hester*.

4. How *Haman's* intended mischief was discovered to the King at *Hester's* feast, and prevented, and how *Haman* was hanged on the same gallows, he had set up for *Mordocai*, for which Deliverance the Jews kept a yearly Feast called *Purim* or lot.

Answ,

Quest. 2.

Why would not Mordocai bow to Haman?

Answ.

Because *Haman* was an *Amalekite*, which nation was accursed of God, and the *Israelites* were commanded to abhor them. *Exo.* 17. 16. where *Moses* saith, that God will have war with *Amalek* for ever.

Job.

Quest. 1.

What read me of Job :

Answ.

1. That he was a very rich man and a good man, that he had seven sons and three daughters, and a very great household.
2. How God was pleased to permit Satan to deprive him of all, his estate, children, friends, and health, to try his Patience.
2. *Job's* behaviour under his losses, pain & sorrows, he giveth thanks to God for all.
3. How his friends came to comfort him, endeavouring to convince him, that God afflicted him for some notorious sins, whereupon followeth a sharp and witty dispute between them: The Question was, *Whether Job suffered for Hypocrisie?*

His friends affirm it, and order all their discourse accordingly.

Job

Job denieth it, and maintains his Integrity.

At last God himself is the Moderator, *Job* is justified and his friends condemned, and *Job* must pray God to forgive their mistakes.

Quest. 2.

What was the event and issue of Job's trials?

Answ.

The issue was very comfortable. For,

1. He recovered his former health and strenght.

2. God blessed him with a greater estate than he had at first.

3. God gave him as many children as he had before.

4. He lived 140 years after his troubles and died.

This Book of psalms.

Quest. 1.

What say you of the Book of Psalms?

Answ.

1. The book of Psalms is one of the most excellent Books of Holy Scripture, fitted for all mens occasions in Adversity and in Prosperity.

2. 'Tis

2. 'Tis thought that *Esdra* collected the Psalms, and put them in this order we now have them.

3. Religious people, in former times were so in love with this Book, that one while they would read it over every week, another while, every month, being full of Prayers and Thanksgivings.

4. Seven of these Psalms are called Penitential Psalms, and they are the 6. 25. 38. 51. 102. 130. 143.

5. In time of trouble or sickness read the 22. 39, 44, 88. In time of prosperity read or sing the 19, 65, 103, 104, 107.

6. They are called the Psalms of *David* because he composed most of them, Christ and his Apostles do often repeat the Psalms.

Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Canticles.

Quest.

What say you of these three Books of *Salomon*?

Answ.

1. The Book of the Proverbs contains much matter in few words, every Chapter
and

and sometimes a single verse holding forth divers truths.

2. In the book of Ecclesiastes, Salomon like a Preacher, instructs us how to look after true blessedness, and proves all things under the Sun vanity and a vexation of spirit, perswading young people to serve God betimes.

3. In the Canticles, Salomon sets forth the entire mutual love 'twixt Christ the Bridegroom and the Church his Spouse.

This Book is to be read with all reverence and holy affections. Filthy Wantons are unfit to read this or any other part of Holy Writ.

Of the holy Prophets of the Old Testament.

Quest. 1.

How many Prophets have left us their books in the old Testament?

Ans.

Sixteen: whereof the 4 first are called the greater Prophets, and the other 12 are called the lesser Prophets, because they have not written so largely as the 4 greater have done.

Quest. 2. Who is the chief of the Prophet Isaiah?

Ans.

Jeremy an

ations.

Quest.

What saiest thou of Jeremy?

Ans.

1. He was called to be a Prophet when he was yong. viz. do

2. He preached in *Jerusalem*, when the City was besieged, and he often intreated King and people, with much importunity, to hearken to God's Word; to amend their lives; to submit to the King of *Babylon*, whereby they might preserve the City and Temple from burning, and themselves from bitter Bondage. For which labour and good counsel, this holy Prophet is hated and kept continually in prison.

3 At last *Jerusalem* was destroyed and destroyed having his life

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He speaks of the Resurrection, and Day of Judgement in the last chapter.

The twelve lesser Prophets.

Quest.

What canst thou say of them ?

Answ.

1. Of the twelve lesser Prophets, Some preached before the Captivity, some in, and some after it.

2. Their main business was to invite people to repentance, and to threaten the impenitent with God's wrath, and to comfort the penitent.

3. The last Prophet was *Malachi*, who prophecyed of *John* the Baptist, and of the rising of the Sun of righteousness the Lord Jesus Christ.

Apocrypha.

Quest.

What is your opinion of the Apocrypha Books ?

Answ.

The Apocrypha Books are not the pure infallible word of God : Because,

1. They

1. They contain many fabulous things, as the History of *Bel* and the *Dragon*, of *Susanna*, *Judith*, and the like.

2. Because they were not written by Prophets immediately inspired by the holy Ghost. For the Author of the Books of the *Maccabees*, in the latter end, asketh pardon if he have not done well, which agreeth not with the Majesty of the holy Scripture.

3. Because these Books contain many things Contrary to the Truth, as divers passages of the Book of *Tobie*, and the rest testify.

4. Because they were not written in the Hebrew tongue as the Canonical Books of the old Testament were. Neither is any of them mentioned by Christ or his Apostles in the New Testament.

The Church permits the reading of them, to take notice of some passages concerning God's people in those days.

We may also see in the reading of them, the difference 'twixt the writings of men, and those that were written by holy Prophets inspired by God the holy Ghost.

2 Pet. 1. 19.

The New Testament.

Quest. 1.

Why is it called the New Testament?

Ans.

1. Because it doth discover to us the Free Grace and Mercy of God promised in the Covenant of Grace. For God made two Covenants with the World;

1. A Covenant of works, which is: Do this and live.

2. A Covenant of Grace, which is: Believe and thou shalt live, as it is in the Gospel.

Quest. 2.

What is the Gospel?

Ans.

The Gospel declareth the glad Tidings of Salvation by Jesus Christ, Where note;

That the old Testament speaks chiefly of the Acts of God the Father.

The 4 Gospels set forth the Acts of God the Son. The Acts and Epistles of the Apostles shew forth the works and wonders of God the Holy Ghost after Christ's Ascension into Heaven.

Quest. 3.

Which are the chief Sermons of Christ?

E

Chri

Christian should often read and learn to understand? *Answ*

Four especially ;

1. His Sermon on the Mount, in the 5, 6, and 7 chapters of St. *Matthew*.

2. His Sermon to the Clergy or Ministers of the Gospel, in the 10 Chapter of St. *Matthew*.

3. His prophetic Sermon of the day of Judgement, and of the end of the world, in the 24 and 25 chapters of St. *Matthew*.

4. His farewell Sermon to his disciples in the 14, 15, and 16 chapters of St. *John*.

To these, add the sweet Prayer of Christ for the Church, the 17 chapter of St. *John*.

St. *Matthew*.

What sayest thou of St. *Matthew*?

Answ.

1. He was called by Christ from the Receipt of Custom, to be an Apostle, and he was willing to forsake all and to follow him.

2. His Gospel contains Christ's Genealogy, Nativity, his Life, Death and Resurrection.

3. St. *Matthew* writes some things, which other Evangelists have not; namely,

1. The

1. The Genealogy of Christ from *Abraham* downward to *Joseph*, and *Mary*.
2. The history of the wise men.
3. *Joseph's* purpose to forsake his espoused wife.
4. Christ's fleeing into *Egypt* from the fury of King *Herod*.
5. The bloody Murder of the Infants of *Bethlehem*.
6. Some Parables, which the other *Evangelists* have not.

St. Mark.

Quest.

What canst thou say of St. Mark?

Answ.

1. *St. Mark* was an Evangelist, and a disciple of *St. Peter's*, by whose help he wrote the History of Christ's Life, Death, Resurrection and Ascension.
2. This Evangelist is more large in the description of Christ's Miracles, than in other passages of Christ's Life and Death.

St. Luke.

Quest.

What say you of St. Luke and his Gospel?

Answ.

1. *St Luke*, by Profession a Physician, was one of the 70 disciples, employed by *S Paul* in the planting of the Gospel.

2. He observed many things which the other Evangelists have omitted; as,

1. The History of *Zachary* and *Elizabeth*, and the Nativity of *John* the Baptist.

2. The Angel *Gabriel's* Salutation of the blessed Virgin *Mary*.

3. The History of old *Simeon*, and of *Anna* the Prophetess.

4. Christ's disputing with the Doctors in the Temple, when he was but 12 years old.

5. The time of Christ's Nativity, namely, in the Reign of *Augustus* the Emperor.

6. The manifestation of Christ's Nativity by Angels to the Shepherds.

7. Christ's Circumcision on the 8 day.

8. The Genealogy of Christ upward to *Adam*.

9. The Parable of *Dives* and *Lazarus*, and of the Prodigal son, &c.

10. Christ's praying whole nights in desert mountains alone.

11. The History of the 2 disciples going to *Emmaus* on *Easter* day, or Resurrection day.

S. John.**Quest.**

What can you say of St. John?

Answ.

1. He was one of the XII Apostles, the beloved Disciple: he out-lived all the Apostles, and died a natural death at *Ephesus*, all the other Apostles were martyred.

2. He begins his Gospel with many Arguments to prove that Christ was God from everlasting, equal to the Father and to the Holy Ghost.

3. Most of his Histories are omitted by the other Evangelists: as,

1. The Calling of *Nathanael*.

2. Christ's Miracle at a Marriage in *Cana*.

3. His dispute with *Nicodemus* about Regeneration.

4. His discourse with the woman of *Samarita*.

5. The healing of a man, at the Pool of *Bethesda*, that had been sick 38 years.

6. His frequent disputes with the Jews concerning his Divine Nature, and his real spiritual Presence in the Sacrament.

7. His raising of *Lazarus* from the dead.

8. His washing of his Disciples feet.

9. His restoring of *St. Peter* to his former office and place, by a threefold solemn confession of him, as he had before three times denied him.

The Acts of the Apostles.

Quest.

What say you of this book?

Ans.

1. The Penman of the Acts of the Apostles was *St. Luke*, the chief Historian whereof are these;

1. Christs Ascension into Heaven.

2. The Election of *Matthias* to be an Apostle in the room of *Judas* the Traitor.

3. The miraculous appearing of God the Holy Ghost upon the day of Pentecost.

4. The healing of a Cripple by *Peter* and *John*.

5. The sad end of *Ananias* and *Sapphira*.

6. The Martyrdom of *Stephen*.

7. The Conversion of *Paul*.

8. The Conversion of *Cornelius* by *Peter*.

9. The Conversion of many by *St. Paul*, as of *Lydia*, *Sergius Paulus*, the Jailour and others.

10. The

10. The Martyrdom of St. *James*: The imprisonment and deliverance of St. *Peter* by an Angel.

11. The Woeful end of persecuting *Herod*, who was eaten up alive by worms for his rage against the Church of Christ.

12. St. *Paul's* travails and great sufferings both among Jews and Gentiles.

13. His Sermons before *Felix*, *Festus* and King *Agrippa*.

14. His dangerous Sea-Voiage to *Rome*, and his conversation there.

The 14 Epistles of St. *Paul*.

Quest.

What can you say of St. *Paul's* Epistles?

Ans.

The end of St. *Paul* in his Epistles is;

1. To convince men of Sin, and of a necessity of Christ, the onely Saviour of the world.

2. To set forth the unsearchable Riches of God's free Grace in Christ to the world.

3. To exhort Christians to thankfulness, and to the performance of their duties towards God and towards men, whether our Superiors, inferiors or equalls.

The Epistle of St. James

Quest.

What say you of this Epistle?

Answ.

1. This Apostle perswades Christians to shew the Truth of Faith by good works.
2. The Doctrine of St. James about justification is not contrary to that of St. Paul's in his Epistles as Luther thought at first, For,

As St. Paul teacheth, that it is Faith that doth justifie us before God : so St. James sheweth what kind of faith it must be, namely not a dead but, a fruitful living Faith to justifie us also before men.

The I. and II. Epistle of St. Peter.

Quest.

What say you of these 2 Epistles?

Answ.

1. These two Epistles are called general Epistles, because they were not written to any particular Nation, City, or Person, as those of S. Paul, but to all Christians whether Jews or Gentiles.
2. The Apostle's scope and aim in them

1. To exhort Christians to make their Calling and Election sure.

2. To discharge our duties to God and man.

3. To forewarn us of damnable Heresies, and false teachers that would trouble the Church in the latter times of the world.

4. He foretells of much Atheism in the last dayes, and Concludes with a description of the World's destruction by fire.

The 3 Epistles of St. John.

Quest.

What can you say of these?

Answ.

1. That which the Apostle chiefly aims at; is,

1. To commend unto us God's wonderful Love in Christ to all his Elect.

2. To perswade us to love God again.

3. To assure us, that true love to God appears by our love to the brethren.

4. He commends a noble Lady of *Asia* for her piety and charity.

5. He commends also one *Gaius* a charitable harbourer of persecuted Christians in those days.

6. He

6. He sharply censureth one *Diotrephes* for his Ambition and Pride, for seeking his own glory more than the Glory of Christ, and the Honour of the Gospel.

The Epistle of S. Jude.

Quest.

What saiest thou of this Epistle?

Answ.

1. The Apostle exhorts Christians to constancy in the Faith once received.

2. He describes the evil manners and dangerous opinions of Apostates and Hereticks in the latter daies.

The Apocalyps or Revelation of St. John.

Quest.

What can you say of this Book?

Answ.

1. That St. John for Religion was banished by the Emperor *Domitian*, into the Island *Patmos*, where Jesus Christ appeared to him, and his Angel revealed to him what shall befall the Church to the end of the World.

2. The

2. The three first Chapters are Historical, relating the state and condition of the 7 Churches of *Asia*.

3. The whole book else is prophetic and very myſterious, containing Viſions and Revelations: yet a ſpecial Bleſſing is promiſed to the careful reading and meditation of it :
chap. I. 3.

4. In it more principally are foretold,

1. The evils that ſhould befall God's Church under Antichriſt.

2. The Riſe and Fall of Antichriſt or Popiſh Kingdom.

3. We have in it a notable Deſcription of

The Day of Judgment;

Of the Reſurrection,

Of the Heavenly Jeruſalem,

Of the Churches earneſt expectation and longing for Chriſt's Coming in Glory.

To whom with the Father, and the Holy Ghoſt, be all Glory, Praise and Thankſgiving for ever and ever. *Amen.*

A Prayer for yong People, to be said every Morning and Evening.

MOST Holy Lord God, the Creator of
Heaven and Earth, my Merciful Fa-
ther in Iesues Christ, the God of my life and of
all my Comforts, I am by nature dead in sin
and trespasses, poor and blind, naked and mi-
serable, not able of my self to have a good
thought, much less to doe one God-pleasing
work, worse than the Beasts that perish: for,
I was conceived and born in sin, and have li-
ved in sin, I have not kept one of thy holy Laws,
I have not prized the Gospel of Salvation, nei-
ther have thy Mercies or Corrections kindly
wrought upon me, I have omitted holy Duties,
and committed much evil in thy sight, O Lord
God, and so have deserved a thousand ways to
be cast out into utter darkness, to have my
portion in Hell with the damned for ever: oh,
that I could bewail my sinful life, and mourn
bitterly in secret as I should: O Lord, I abhor
my self in dust and ashes, miserable wretch that

I am, Who shall deliver me from the body of this death ?

2. O Lord God; thou hast sent thy dear Son our Lord Jesus into the world to save sinners, and thy holy Word assures me, that if I confess and forsake my sins, I shall have Mercy, and that if I repent and believe in Christ, I shall not perish : I pray thee, Holy Father, give me a broken and a contrite heart and Spirit, give me Repentance to life, and true Faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, that he may be all in all to me : Oh, Let his precious blood cleans me from all my sins, Let him be my Heavenly Prophet to teach me, my great High Priest to redeem me, and to pray in Heaven for me ; Let him be my King to rule and guide me by his Word and holy Spirit, that by him I may overcome, the Devil, the World, and the Corruptions of my heart according to my baptismal Vow.

3. Keep me, O Lord, by thy Grace from all such occasions and company, where I may be tempted to offend thee, help me to see how vain and uncertain all things of this world are; Oh, give me a heart to love the Lord Jesus in sincerity, and to think nothing too much I can do or suffer for his sake : Strengthen, I pray thee, my weak Faith in thee, my unfeigned love to thee, and make good to me all the sweet and precious Promises of the Covenant of Grace

* Hebr. 10. 16. Grace *, to write thy Law in my heart, and to remember my sins and iniquities no more: Fit me for Troubles and Trials, for Sickness and Death, and for the Coming of Christ in Glory, that I may be found among the wise Virgins, and be counted worthy to enter into my Heavenly Master's Joy.

4. Be mercifull to thy Church and People in the whole world, maintain thy Gospel against all Opposition of Hell and Antichrist, according to thy Promise, Have Mercy on this Land of my Nativity, Let Peace and Truth be in our Days. Bless our King, Queen and all the the Royal Family, and all our Magistracy and Governours in Church and State: Bless the faithful Ministry of thy Word and all Holy Ordinances to me and to all thine; Let thy Word be my delight and my Counsellor in all things, what I know not, Lord teach thou me, that I may be built up daily in saving Knowledge and in Grace.

5. Be gracious to the place and family, where I live, Oh, suffer not sin to reign in this place, pity all our kinsfolks and neighbors, that are carnal and unconverted, oh, turn them from sin to Grace, from the power of Satan, to God, give me a heart to pray for them, and to watch and take all opportunities to win them by my good example; and those that are converted,

keep them and me, O Lord, by thy power, through
faith unto salvation, to the end, and in the end.

6, Now blessed for ever be thy Name, hea-
venly Father, Which is above all blessing and
praise, for all the many testimonies of thy Love
to me, for my Health and Strength, daily pre-
servation and manifold deliverances ; But
above all for thy Free Grace and Everlast-
ing Love in Jesus Christ to me and to all
thine Elect, for bringing me to the Knowledge
of Christ, and for the many opportunities of
Grace : O Lord, enable me to make a blessed
use of all, that I may never give thee just
cause to repent of all the Good thou doest
for me daily ; Preserve and keep me and
this place, this (Day, Night) from all
evil, Command thy holy Angels to pitch
their Tents about us ; Oh, Let me find
Grace in thy sight, I pray thee, for thy favour
is better than life it self, hear me and answer
me, for Jesus Christ's sake my dear Saviour
and only Mediator, In whose Holy Name
and Words, I say ; Our Father, which, &c.

The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,

The Love of God my Heavenly Father, and

The sweet Communion of the Holy Ghost, be
with me now and ever, Amen.

F I N I S.